



THE BELL RINGER

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Nashville Tennessee



Vol. 45 No. 7

MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

MAY 17, 1989

Juniors Put on a Successful Prom

by Rob Lentz

staff reporter
Prom night is traditionally one of the most memorable of high school experiences, a magical evening that is often the culmination-a coming of age, if you will-of the student's social life. Moreover, the Junior-Senior Prom allows the Junior class to show its appreciation for the Senior class by organizing and executing the construction of the set for their enjoyment.

But wait, you say-the Junior class? They are putting on a...prom? Those words doubtlessly crossed the minds of many folk not in the know, those anticipating to find the gym completely empty or, worse, in flames. But, oh, how wrong they were. Seniors and underclassmen shuffled into the Brownlee O. Currey Gymnasium-a portal through time and space-to be

mystically transported to an Oriental paradise of golden dragons, extravagant decorations, exotic plant life, and Christmas tree lights. Indeed, the much maligned Junior class united in a blaze of creative talent and construction expertise to complete the masterpiece over a period of weeks. Working from such original themes as "Beach Party from Hell," "The Big House," and "Welcome to Hell's Kitchen," the more conservative but extravagant Oriental set became this year's Prom set of choice.

Under the expert guidance of Dr. Crowell and foremen Billy Crawford and George Clements, the class of 1990 made tremendous sacrifices, devoting their time to blood, sweat, and splinters, in an effort to make this the best gosh-darned Prom in MBA history.

And I'll be darned if it wasn't, right? Indeed, fun was

had by all upon arrival at the Chinese wonderland, for, after the presentation came Tyrone Smith and the Tell-Stars, a scorching rhythm and blues band. The lead singer, Tyrone Smith (actually Bill Cosby in town for a benefit, believe it or not) was an exciting performer who ultimately got those kids dancing like nobody's business and who

played fabulous music for three straight hours without a break. With their feet aching and their formal wear soaked, most of the dancers left to enjoy the breakfasts until the wee hours, awakening in mid-afternoon with pleasant memories of the greatest Junior-Senior Prom ever presented.



Bull entertains Jimmy Thompson and Andy Patterson at the Prom.

Haywood Montoye

Soup Kitchen Feeds the Homeless

by Rob Lentz

staff writer
The Soup Kitchen-as we all know-is a public service program in which MBA students prepare and serve a meal for the homeless at Holy Name Catholic Church once a month. That is the tidy definition of the soup kitchen, but this vital service-for those who have not been involved in the program-is so much more. The soup kitchen provides a unique glimpse into a world which we, rarely see and, worse, often choose to ignore. The problem is that we can't ignore the people who live-if you can call it living-on the streets of America today. To see and talk with the homeless at the soup kitchen is a unique and powerful experience, and it makes one realize that the current media catch-phrases for the homeless such as "the

American tragedy" and the "shame of America" are real people-men, women, and children with ruined lives and nowhere to go. These are not handsome people, nor are they "normal" people by society's standards; they are dirty, weathered, brutalized, unpleasant-looking people from whom the average Belle Meade resident (among whom I number myself) would recoil. Indeed, it is difficult for us to look across the Cumberland from the closed window of our mother's cozy Mercedes or our father's Oldsmobile (with the doors locked) and try to imagine the kind of life the homeless lead. It is, unfortunately, all too easy to ignore them in our quiet neighborhoods sheltered from the ugliness and plight of the inner city. They are nevertheless there, and it is difficult to describe to someone not in-

involved in the Soup Kitchen the feeling of being able to brighten their lives only a little, of being able to help them hold on, because, for many, our meal is one of the few meals they can get during the entire week. The human side of the problem is something few people take into account beyond a strong feeling of aversion, but it is remarkable to watch these broken people retain their dignity, to show their heartfelt appreciation, and to make their own hopeless lives as tolerable as possible, knowing full well that there is very little we or anyone can do truly to bring them out of their misery. Now, I use all of this serious language in an effort to make you the student more closely and practically aware of this problem and what you can do about it. Participating in the soup kitchen not only

helps you help those who can't help themselves, but I believe it is a vitally important aspect in the growth and learning of an MBA student-an extra-curricular lesson in life. Through my own involvement in the soup kitchen, I have learned to appreciate to a great degree how fortunate I-and everyone at MBA-have been. We as adolescents are constantly harangued by our elders who claim to have walked to school barefoot in the snow ten miles every day and had only crawdads and sand to eat, emphasizing how much we have and how little we acknowledge it. Well, those parents are right, as I have come to realize at the soup kitchen how much we all take for granted. One Saturday at the soup kitchen, for example, I stood chopping

see Soup Kitchen, page three

MBA Students Landscape at Clover Bottom

by John Smithwick

staff reporter
Earlier this spring, the student council decided to organize and carry out a project at the Clover Bottom State Institute for the mentally handicapped. After talking to Dr. Francois, who led a group of council representatives around one afternoon, we decided to work on an already existing covered porch area. The student council knew that the project would include the addition of some shrubbery to the bare patio, along with a few benches, but we were fairly shaky on the details. At that point, we enlisted the aid of Mr. Dale Smith of Appaloosa Landscapes. Aided by his guidance and generous donation of time, the student council was able to develop a plan for the landscaping job. (Actually, Dale really designed the layout.)

Using funds donated by Baka-Baka Corporation, the Service Club, and the Big Red Club, the student council purchased four benches, some wind chimes, three trees, and fifteen bushes. The final plans were made and the actual job was ready to be completed.

Approximately twenty students caravanned to Clover Bottom on Saturday morning of the 29th. There, Dale met us and guided the group in approximately two and a half hours of extensive landscaping. We constructed benches, cleared grass, dug beds, fertilized, planted trees and shrubs, and cleaned up the area. The entire effort went off without a hitch.

Through the effort of a few generous individuals, MBA students were able to beautify an area which will brighten the lives of many for years to come.

EDITORIAL:

What Bill of Rights?

by Jason Burroughs

co-editor-in-chief

As commencement approaches and as a senior class weary of an intensely conservative education search for one final chance to express their individuality, those seniors see their last wills and testaments as a vehicle by which to let the world know that beyond the DuckHeads and the two-button polo shirts lies a personality, a free-thinking mind.

After having reviewed these works of senior expression, I can safely confess that the class of '89 is an impressive group of free-thinkers. As you may guess, though, a considerable amount of obscenity, innuendo, and double-entendre found its way into the wills, and - as was appropriate - the administration deleted the tasteless remarks found there. Common sense and fairness do give a school administration the right and the authority to

stop publication of material that needlessly slanders faculty members or other members of the school community.

As frequently occurs at MBA, though, conservative paranoia set in, and many wills were edited not because they were offensive or obscene or defaming, but because the administration readers did not understand them or because they feared that someone might think that there exist at MBA students who are not blissfully content with every single aspect of the school.

For example, one senior left "AHAP, MEHAP, and CGAP." This line was promptly scratched because the administration readers did not understand the acronyms and feared that they might be evil, suggestive, or otherwise inappropriate. As it turned out, though, the letters were simply the harmless initials of

several classes at MBA: American History-AP, Modern European History-AP, and Comparative Government-AP. When the censor learned of the meaning of the acronyms, he weakly defended his editing by saying that the teachers involved might be offended and that the will might appear to criticize those classes. (Such logic reminds one that all the atoms in a room *MIGHT* rush into one corner near the ceiling.)

Another glaring example of over-censoring is the following will, none of which was allowed to be printed: "I, ___, do hereby bequeath all of my possessions, worldly and otherwise, to ___ so that he may use them to bring a little more love to this place."

The name of the senior will-writer and that of the student to whom he gave his possessions is not important. The crisis here is that for some

reason, the administration believes that this will is not printable. Why not? Is it because someone might assume that the love mentioned is perverted? Is it because someone might discover there is a senior at MBA that believes the amount of love at MBA is not perfect?

One must wonder why the

administration fears even the slightest criticism - whether real or inferred in a fit of paranoia - from its students to go public. MBA is surely an institution solid enough to allow its seniors more freedom of expression and maybe even to benefit from their opinions.

**"Congress shall make no law...
abridging the freedom of
speech, or of the press..."**

**-The First Amendment to the
Constitution of the United States
of America**

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Mark Bittles, Cary Brothers, Rally Dupps, Matt Foster, Chris Hall, Matt Inman, Billy Lyell, Michael O'Hare, Rabin Nimmo, Arthur Reid, and Stuart Towery have made two contributions to the paper.

The following people have made one contribution to the paper and have one credit: Rick Barksdale, Sam Bartholomew, John Bass, George Crawford, Craig Davis, Todd Foust, Patrick Harclerod, Charles Israel, Jeff Joe, Hal Jones, Lee Page, Eugene Park, Andy Patterson, Deepak Raja, George Reitz, John Rochford, Jeremy Russell, Mark Szydio, and John Wesley.

OPINION:

Eighth Period: A Time for Privileges?

by Luke Davis

staff writer

Of the many improvements that have come to MBA in the name of progress this year, one, the reorganization of the Privilege List System, has arrived by skirting the system rather than mollifying it. As more than one student has noted, the system is more in need of deconstructing than restructuring. Under the old system, those meeting P.L. requirements were allowed to be excused from study hall in order to study elsewhere on campus or spend time as they pleased. Not only did this provide more freedom to the student to establish his own work schedule, but it also helped thin the study hall ranks and decrease study hall distractions. While the new rules affect only the eighth period, it should be realized that half of a student's study halls occurs during this time at the end of the day.

The reasons for this year's modifications were attributed to the fact that a large number of students were getting out of study hall without legitimate excuses, and because of the numbers of students involved, it became difficult to enforce the rules. Another problem was the act of obtaining illegitimate notes to see teachers. While this year's changes have certainly put an end to the dishonesty of last year, they have penalized the innocent far more than the guilty. While this policy certainly poses a problem, through a sense of honor and discipline, it can definitely be overcome. I propose that last year's guidelines be reinstated, with the exception that notes to see teachers be more closely monitored. This adaption could be made by having each teacher set a limit as to the number of students he or she would see during eighth period, and by allow-

ing to come only those students who really need help and will work. The practice of excusing Seniors from study hall at the end of the day has worked well and should be continued as long as they show the responsibility to handle this privilege. To witness the inadequacy of the present system, one needs only to visit Wallace Hall during the last period of the day and see the lack of work being done. What studying does go on is stopped by the endless disciplinary interruptions and noise due to the overcrowding of the study hall. Those students normally on the P.L. would be better off playing outside than inside, where they affect the work of less gifted students. Let's face it — eighth period is a difficult time for everyone, and only through cooperation and effort can we improve our present situation.

NEWS

"Scene" and Heard- The MBA Father-Son Banquet

by Brad Griffin

reporter
The fun began at 6:00 PM on Thursday, April 13, 1989, with words that ran along the lines: "Wow, son, this line looks pretty long." Hours later, these same fathers and sons made their way to the end of the not-so-bountiful buffet: the 1989 Montgomery Bell Academy Father-Son Banquet was in full swing.

With one of the largest crowds in this writer's memory, the Brownlee O. Currey Gymnasium was filled to the

point of overflowing. Reverend Johnson led the invocation. Mr. Jack Smithwick, this year's president of the father's club, then called for the members of the chorus to come forward.

The choral performance consisted of five songs by Hoagy Carmichael which were accompanied by a three piece jazz ensemble. Leading the trio with fiery fingers was Marion Ross on piano. Soloists were Mike Seshul, Brad Griffin, Jason Burroughs, Drew Robison, Brian

Stephenson, Jonathan Harwell, and Willie Johnson. (Though this confesses an amount of writer bias, the chorus gave one of their best performances to date at the banquet.)

Next came the presentation of Father's Club teaching awards for lasting dedication to the school. Mrs. Bowers and Dr. Crowell received the two awards given this year. Dr. Paschall then offered some thoughts on his first year with us and complimented the chorus by saying,

"Did they nail it or what?"

The highlight of the evening was ex-pro football player Mike Reid. Mr. Reid's speech was concise yet exciting, well-delivered, humorous, and enjoyable. Offering his definition of "after dinner speaker" as someone meant to be boring, Reid got the biggest laugh of the evening when he noted that most of us probably didn't remember what last year's speaker said. Dr. Paschall found this very humorous. (Just for the record, last year's speaker was

some guy from Sewanee who spoke for something just short of eternity on a topic that floated somewhere above our heads. The speech might have had something to do with *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*.) But seriously, Reid had an excellent message on the importance of establishing a good relationship between fathers and sons. After enthusiastic applause, this year's meeting was called to a close and everyone went home to recover from the day. One last thought: "Sic 'im Jesus!"



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Debate Team Wraps Up Year-Awaits Nationals

by Babu Paruchuri
and Craig Davis

staff writers
The MBA debate team has continued to excel at recent tournaments in their preparation for the Nationals in Denver, Colorado. The novices as well as the varsity displayed their skills at the Novice Nine and the State Tournament.

At the Novice Nine, a tournament of the best novice teams in the nation, the novice team of Garrett Kyle and Rob Howell posted an impressive 10-8 record and placed fifth in the tournament over all. This perform-

ance in a good indication of the quality of the varsity in the future. Although losing, at times, ballots on rather questionable decisions, the team still managed to defeat a team from Westminster in Georgia that placed third.

At the State Tournament, the varsity garnered the state championship in cross-examination debate for the sixth year in a row. Placing first was the team of Eugene Park and Babu Paruchuri. In their preliminary rounds, they established a 5-1 mark, and in the elimination rounds, won unanimous decisions in the quarterfinal, semifinal, and

final round with a final 14-1 record. The other varsity team of Bill Sastry and Will Gray also compiled a 5-1 record in the preliminary rounds; however, they lost on a split decision in their quarterfinal match. Overall, Eugene Park, Babu Paruchuri, and Bill Sastry received third place speaker, fifth place speaker, and sixth place speaker.

The team should continue to perform well nationally next year with the top three varsity teams returning.

...Soup Kitchen

broccoli with a large knife. This said chopping went on for some time, and my thoughts began to wander, the way they always do, until I found myself extracting the knife from my left index finger. The cut was minor, although it bled profusely and caused me extreme pain, but it made me realize that I had shed blood to help the homeless, in my own small way, and it reminded me how much I do indeed take for granted.

And now, whenever I catch myself feeling a bit su-

perior, or when I find myself explaining about a noise in my car, I look down at my index finger and examine my tiny scar, remembering the faces of the homeless, how much I owe to the world, and how lucky I am even to drive a car at all.

Okay, then, enough with the lecture. I simply want each one of you to make an effort to help the homeless and to yourselves in the soup kitchen, if for no other reason than to make yourselves aware through direct contact with "the other half," of what America could have been like

for you if the cards had not been dealt in your favor. This year has practically come and gone, so for those of you interested in a lesson in humility and an examination of your own character, I urge you to get involved in the soup kitchen as soon as possible next year.

To ignore the brutality of life in America for these people by not participating in this vital service would be a tragedy, and to leave MBA without this broadening experience would be selling oneself short.

ENTERTAINMENT

Sacred Music Sacred Dance

by David Workman

staff writer

May all beings have happiness, and the causes of happiness.

May all beings be free of suffering, and the causes of suffering.

May all beings never be separated from the sacred joy that is free of suffering.

May all beings dwell in great equanimity, free of attachment and aversion...

Drepung Monastery was established near Lhasa, Tibet, in 1416 A.D. by Jamyang Choje. The largest department of the monastery called Loseling was founded in the same year by Acharya Lekden. At its zenith Drepung was the largest monastery in the world, with more than ten thousand monks, until its destruction by the Chinese. Famous for spiritual and academic intensity, it was a training ground for some of the finest traditions of sacred art, music, and dance in Central Asia, following the Chinese invasion

in 1959, several hundred lamas fled to India in order to preserve their spiritual, cultural, and academic traditions. Working diligently, the Tibetan monks finally rebuilt the monastery in exile.

At the present time, the monks Drepung-Loseling Monastery are performing ritual ceremonies and religious dances all over the world (including Canada, the United States, and Europe). This tour is a non-profit, fund raising effort for the Drepung-Loseling Monastery to help provide much-needed facilities for the rapidly growing population of young monks who are leaving Tibet to seek a good education and religious freedom. Anyone wishing to help or contact the monastery, please write (by registered mail) to: **Drepung-Loseling Educational Trust**, c/o Secretary of Drepung-Loseling Monastery, PO Tibetan Colony, Mundgod, District N. Kanara, Karnataka State, 581411, India.

On the evening of April 21, the monks of Drepung-Loseling Monastery performed an assortment of ritual and religious dances at Vanderbilt's Underwood Auditorium. This performance was sponsored nationally by Tibet House (625 Broadway, New York, NY 10012, 1-212-353-8823), a non-profit, educational and cultural institute, under the auspices of His Holiness The Dalai Lama. Other local sponsors included Vanderbilt University Department of Religious Studies, Tibetan Cultural Center, Bloomington, Indiana, and the Middle Tennessee Buddhist Community.

The performers consisted of the following: Gungbar Rinpoche, the group leader and artistic director who plays **dor-ti-damaru** (vajra, bell, and hand-drum); Lhating Rinpoche, the dance director, musician, and chief dancer (Sky Dance) who plays **dung-chen** (long horn); Ghen Namgyal, the musical



director and debate challenger who plays **sil-nyen** (vertical cymbals) and **buk** (horizontal cymbals); Umzey Kunkyen, the chief vocalist, dance choreographer, and dancer (Sky Dance and Skeleton Lords) who plays **gya-ling** (high-pitched trumpet); and Losang Tenzin, ritual assistant, artistic coordinator, and debate responder who plays **nga** (drum). Glenn Mullin, noted lecturer, author, and translator of works on Tibetan Buddhism, introduced and commented on the program as well.

The monks of Drepung-Loseling Monastery spiritually and emotionally overwhelmed the audience with ecstatic sounds of music, ritual, and religious dances performed in extraordinarily lavish and colorful costumes, and the unusual monotonous of

their immortal voices. Nyensen, invoking the Spirit of Goodness; **Kha-dro Ten-zhug gar-cham**, the Longevity Dance of the Skeleton Lords; and **Sang-sol Shi-jo**, environmental purification and prayer for peace were among the many individual performances by the monks. Furthermore, the Tradition of Debate, a demonstration of the principal monastic tool of philosophic debate and discussion, was also included in the performance. The simple message of the monks of Drepung-Loseling Monastery continues today as they attempt to help their people and spread world peace. **Sacred Music, Sacred Dance** symbolically reflects a people's cry for help and for existence. Together! we must save the race...

R.E.M. - Clubs... to Coliseums

by Scott Galloway and guest Big "E" Simmons

staff reporter

On March 31, the boys from Athens, Georgia arrived at MTSU's Murphy Center. At approximately 5:00 pm, R.E.M. did an exhilarating soundcheck which included songs such as "Secret Agent Man," "Action," and a well-deserved "Driver 8." The writers of this article were very fortunate to have received backstage passes and tickets, with the help of our good friend Jim Ed Norman of Warner Brothers, Nashville and Larry White, P.R. man for R.E.M. Despite some misleading criticisms from claim-to-be R.E.M. fans, the concert proved to be unsurpassed.

The concert opened with "Pop Song '89," the first track on *Green*. They played seven songs off the current album including a very impressive "You Are the Everything" with Bill Berry (drummer) on bass guitar and Mike Mius

(bassist) on the accordion. Perhaps the most shocking performance was "Perfect Circle" off of *Murmur* played for only the 22nd time ever live with Peter Buck on acoustic guitar and Peter Holsapple, former leader of The dB's on keyboards.

The arena atmosphere did not change the band at all - they still talked with, ignored, and even provoked the crowd. Michael Stipe's singing and various motions have improved greatly since eight years ago when they played small clubs such as "40-Watt Club" in Athens, Georgia.

The show lasted a good two hours, not to mention three sets of encores. The encores brought Stipe more freedom and opportunity even to sing some of his solo material, including an a cappella version of "Summertime." R.E.M. ended with "Close to the Door," a humorous conclusion to an energetic night.

THE DISINTEGRATION

by Jim Haynes

staff writer

"I think I'm old and I'm feeling pain" you said "and it's all running out like it's the end of the world" you said "and it's so cold it's like the cold if you were dead" and then you smiled for a second

(Plainsong)

Robert Smith's lyrics of rebellion with a naturalistic mood of gloom still dominate in The Cure's new album, *Disintegration*. Along with Robert, The Cure consist of Porl Thompson on guitar, Simon Gallup on bass, Boris Williams on drums, and both Roger O'Donnell and Lawrence Tolhurst on keyboards. The album itself is a moody album of romantic melancholy mixed with dirges of gothic gloom.

"Plainsong" and "Pictures of You" portray the melancholy in the music with Boris'

THIS MUSIC HAS BEEN MIXED TO BE PLAYED LOUD SO TURN IT UP

echoing drums and Porl's lyrical guitars that mesmerize. Velvet waves of air and Simon's bass bring blissful pleasures of Joy Division dancing through our heads. The romantic "Lovesong" uses the effect of silence with sparse guitar and synthesizers to lure one into the work. The melancholy is smashed by their first single, "Fascination Street," with the punk thunder The Cure is known for in their early work. It is a dark dance song with Simon's raw thundering bass rumbling behind Porl's constantly changing guitar licks. The gothic gloom darkens the mood in "Prayers for Rain" with the muted keyboards of Roger and Lawrence. The album ends on the same somber note with "Untitled," yet Porl's guitar twitters happily, lifting the song. Robert's lyrics remain saddened and even

more melancholic than his previous works.

In the two years since *Kiss Me, Kiss Me, Kiss Me*, the band has gone under some changes. For one, Roger O'Donnell joined the band during the last world tour after dropping from the Psychedelic Furs, and Lawrence has taken a lesser part in the band, "because," Robert jokes, "he is useless." Also, Robert married. This drastically changed him from the brash rebellion of punk to a melancholic, more conservative view of romanticism, which can be seen in *Disintegration*. The Cure plans for an international tour starting in July and will reach America in September. Maybe they'll come to Nashville (yeah, right... just like The Smiths came to Nashville).

ENTERTAINMENT

Batman's Back!

by John Gupton

circulation editor
Look! Up in the air! It's a bird! It's a plane... no wait - it's... the bat-plane? That's right - Batman, the caped crusader himself, is back in action this summer along with an updated bat-plane, a sleeker batmobile, and a host of nifty bat-gadgets.

According to a recent *USA Today* article, "bat-mania" is already descending on the country, manifesting itself in the form of a "plethora of movie-related merchandise. Batman is 'hip' now and so are the nearly thirty different Batman t-shirts available. In addition, the summer will bring an extensive line of bat-toys (and most likely booming sales). The possibilities have no bounds: take, for instance green, white, and orange-colored Joker sneakers.

In recent movie history, the advanced publicity generated by the Batman projected is unparalleled. From day one, the project has been

high-profile - and high-budget (an estimated 30 million dollars). The choice of popular comedic actor Michael Keaton for the title role ignited a controversy that prompted devoted Batman fanatics to protest with a letter campaign, the subject of a front page story in *The Wall Street Journal*. Almost as controversial was the choice for director of the picture: Tim Burton, the imaginative filmmaker who brought us "Pee Wee's Big Adventure" and "Beetlejuice." At least, as one insider comments, the movie should provide a "visual treat."

Although the cast and crew have been fairly secretive, one thing is certain: this movie is radically different from the silly, camp TV series of the 60's. In the corny TV version, Batman was a cartoonish character. On the other side of the coin, the new Batman is, in the director's words, a "real human being with interesting psychological problems." The script's

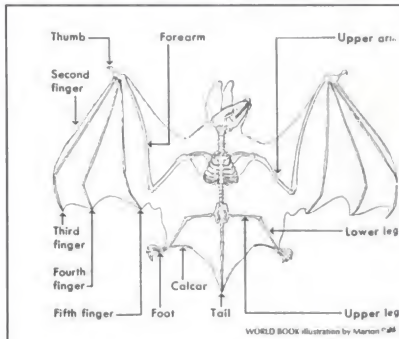
assumption about Batman's character is that any rich, successful bachelor who is compelled to dress like a bat and fight crime at night must have a screw loose. In a *Newsweek* article, Burton states the film will definitely explore the character's "schizophrenic" side. Overall, the new movie will have a much more serious tone and a darker look.

It's premise has Batman pitted against archvillain the Joker, a ghoulish clown-faced Jack Nicholson. Now for some bad news. Batman's ubiquitous sidekick Robin is not featured in the film... awwwwww, too bad. Here, then is the good news: Bruce Wayne has a comely love interest played by the sizzling Kim Basinger.

One crucial question remains: will the movie live up to the high expectations for it? The suspense will end June 23rd, opening day. So for now, the world waits...

The sight of a flying bat frightens many people unnecessarily. Bats do little harm to people or to crops and livestock. These expert fliers even help people by catching and eating large numbers of destructive insects.

-World Book Encyclopedia (1988)



WORLD BOOK illustration by Marston "Bill"

Top Ten

With the recent onslaught of term papers, themes, and science fair project deadlines, *The Bell Ringer* home office has compiled the following top ten list:

Top Ten Excuses For Turning In Assignments Late

10. "There was one?"
9. "I was anxiously awaiting the arrival of my sea monkeys, Doc."
8. "There was a grease fire at Krystal and my papers were consumed in the hellish conflagration therein."
7. "I was severely weakened by several days on the Oprah liquid diet."
6. "While at Krystal, Elvis spilled Fanta on my theme."
5. "Who cares about grades anyway; we might all be DEAD tomorrow!"
4. "I was possessed by evil dogs."
3. "I was abducted by Turkish monks while buying liquid paper and pork rinds at the Circle-K."
2. "Devraj mystically transformed all my writing instruments into grotesque serpents."
1. "Sheldon ate it - really!"

Rob Lentz and Lee Page

Nettwerk Sound Sampler: A Food for Thought

by Jim Haynes

staff writer

Independent record companies have generally been known as a creative start for new bands to root into music. They range from the commercial like Beggars Banquet and Enigma, who give us Love and Rockets, the Cult, and the Smithereens, to the local like New York's Homestead, producing Live Skull and Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds, or Wax Trax in Chicago, recording Front 242 and the Revolting Cocks. The Nettwerk is one of these small local companies. A small group of artists founded the Nettwerk in Vancouver and have recently put out a compilation of their best music in the Nettwerk Sound Sampler: A Food for Thought.

The album opens with Sarah McLachlan's "Out of the Shadows," a beautiful and melancholic blend of acoustic guitars and her soothing soprano voice. This is followed by a band called Severed Heads. Although the name implies some cannibalistic morbidity, "Greater Reward" is rather a tight mix of textured keyboards, a hammering bass, and quickened high-pitched vocals. Another band with a weird name, Lava Hay, produces one of the best songs on the compilation, "Waiting

for an Answer." This mellow song uses a folkish combination of violin and acoustic guitars similar to the Waterboys with romantic lyrics simply about rain. This song is immediately followed by "Open Mind" by Moev, who use depressed lyrics and simply polished dance music drowning the mood in a somber distance.

The Water Walk's "Never Leaving Eden Again" is a happy and joyous song of twittering guitars and promising lyrics. The rest of the album is loaded with industrial noise. Manufacture's "As the End Draws Near" fuses the beat of Ministry with the synthetic noise of Skinny Puppy in a well-produced song with Sarah McLachlan on vocals. As for Skinny Puppy, "Addiction" had lost their traditional violence and fake blood for a simpler song of layered textures. Industrial wizards Chris and Casey give a mystical journey of echoing whispers and swirling synthesized sounds in "Trust."

The Nettwerk give a mix of the best songs from Andrew Duthie's homeland. Probably the charts will never give these artists credit for expressing their genius... but then again, the charts only show that Madonna has a new album out.

Webster's New World Dictionary Supplement

By popular demand after the release of the last issue...

RETUN (rē-tun') 1. v. a word meaning something will return two issues after the issue in which it was said to return. So we say in this issue, which is the issue after the issue in which it was said to return; therefore, we repeat that we say that issue is the issue to issue forth a reminder that the heretofore mentioned columns shall return in the forthcoming heretofore mentioned issue. Therefore, we have heretofore mentioned that it will forecome in the verily succeeding issue, which may

or may not succeed the one or both of the heretofore mentioned issues (but we will try). Therefore, thou shalt pick up the succeeding issue now that you have picked up the heretofore mentioned issue (which, by the way, may or may not be the issue which you are now reading). Verily, I am now very confused and now have a verily painful writer's cramp and headache which shall return (or return as it pleases) each time I read one of the heretofore mentioned issues or this verily confusing definition.

2. v. to return
University Bell Academy
Nashville, Tennessee

SPORTS

Freddy's Forces Fight For District

by David Daniels

staff reporter
and Oman Sloan

sports editor

The season for the Varsity Baseball Team has finally rolled to a close with a strong showing in their last seven games. Compiling a record of 5-2 in this seven game series, the Big Red began the series with a strong win over Hillsboro. After disappointing defeats at the hands of Hillwood and Ryan, this game helped rebound morale on the team. The win was greatly attributed to an explosive offense and the strong pitching of John Teeter, who pitched all five innings. The Red continued by defeating Pearl Cohn, with intense contributions by Kevin King, who pitched all five innings, and Stuart Towery and Forest Connor, who batted superbly. After these two wins, the team experienced a small set-back as they lost to Brentwood. The loss, however, was a non-district game and affected the team very little. Traveling to

Whites Creek, the Big Red stomped the Cobras. Kevin King had a superb day as he pitched all seven innings. The team then traveled to Overton and scored an important upset over the defending Class AAA State Champs. Jay Ferguson stunned the Bobcats early and led the Red as they edged out the Cats. The Big Red returned home to face Hillwood, who had beaten MBA earlier in the season. The Red jumped out to an early lead, with home runs by Tiger Harris and Doug Miles. Hillwood, however, once again proved too much for MBA and eventually won 11-5. Despite their disappointing loss to Hillwood, the Big Red rebounded and scraped out a win over Whites Creek in a crucial game in the District. Whites Creek began with a 2-0 lead at the top of the first, but the Red took the lead for good as they batted in the bottom of the first inning. Big Red's offense exploded throughout the game to which Whites

Creek came up dry. The pitching also gave the Creek trouble as David Daniels tended the mound for the whole seven innings. With successful run the Varsity Baseball Team was very optimistic for the District Tournament. Coaches Fred Forehand and Ken Downey were determined to lead the 1989 Varsity Team to their ultimate goal, the competitive Regional Tournament.

But their dreams were dashed as the Team lost their opening games. In this double elimination tournament, the team had an opportunity to avenge their opening loss to Ryan in a 6-4 battle. But the Big Red was overpowered by a strong Overton squad in a 3-0 shutout. Despite the shutout, MBA's defense proved that Overton's State Championship team could not trounce upon the MBA Men. Next year, with a better draw in the District Tournament, should prove the sheer talent that is present in the MBA squad.



Kevin King K's 'em with a curve.

Dwight Bates



David Daniels produces at the plate.

Dwight Bates

Congratulations to the Freshman track team for winning the city championship! (again!)

-from a friend

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255-7616



Burkhalter and Associates

Ted A. Burkhalter, C.P.A.

Attorney at Law

110 29th Ave. North

Suite 303

Nashville, TN. 37203

329-3991

GO BIG RED!

PHOTOJOURNAL

Varsity Track, Wednesday, April 12, 1989

by Andrew Duthie



Alden Smith defeats the demons within himself, as well as the one behind him.

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Alex
Waddey
clears
a hurdle
in the
110-highs
as
James
Gooch
prevents
Lee
Clark
from
getting
into
the picture.

Harrison
Shull
jumps
over
that
horizontal
Line
of
Despair.



SPORTS

Postoff's Players Prepare for Playoffs

by Mad Dog

alumnus reporter
The MBA 1989 Varsity Tennis Team has had, once again, another successful year leading into the State Tournament. The regular season play ended with the Big Red having an undefeated record within the District. The team had only one defeat which was to St. Xavier in Louisville. During the season, there was a lot of inspiring play from the whole team which consisted of Andy Underwood, Leighton Thomas, Morgan Parker, David Mason, Frank Drowota, Carter McNabb, Oman Sloan, Todd Foust, Sharpe Belote, Mark Bittles, David Fitzgerald, Jackson Wray, and Andy Stoll; and the ever-present, ever-pestering presence of Bill "Buster" Cherry (which he has not). Along with their

sweep of the District, the tennis team proved formidable in their non-District matches, especially during their two annual road trips. The first was to Memphis, where the

Big Red rolled over Germantown and MUS. A particularly joyous moment for the Big Red was their bombing of MUS. Another high point of the trip was when Bill de-

feated defending State Champion Chip Stearns. But now that the season is over, the attention has been focused upon the District and Regional tournaments. In the

individual division of the District Tournament, MBA players clinched the tournament: in singles, Bill and Andy qualified to continue on into the Regional Tournament, as well as the doubles teams of Frank Drowota/Morgan Parker and Leighton Thomas/Sharpe Belote. In the team division of the Regional Tournament, MBA defeated Father Ryan in the first round with a sweep of the matches. MBA continued by defeating ?. The team is expected to reach the Final Four in the State. In the singles divisions, MBA's four Regional qualifiers are expected to clinch that tournament also. As the tournament winds toward the State Title, crowd support becomes crucial and any avid fans are encouraged to turn out for these important matches.



Andy "Silent-But-Deadly" Underwood's scorching forehand pins Bill "Buster" Cherry into a corner.

Soccer Season Stopped in Semis

by Babu Parachuri

staff reporter
The MBA Soccer Team's season is clearly ending on a high note with the junior-varsity team showing great promise for the future and with the varsity team playing exceptionally well, heading into the highly competitive district tournament.

Under the leadership of Mr. Mikell, the junior-varsity soccer team compiled a 3-3 record and lost each of those losses by one heartbreaking point. Against Murfreesboro-Oakland, the team, with great defense, held its opponent to no points and won 3-0. Against McGavock, the match was close throughout; however, the Big Red lost 2-3. In a defensive struggle, MBA's junior-varsity soccer team played a crucial game against rival Father Ryan. Despite their efforts, MBA lost to Ryan in a 0-1 decision.

The junior-varsity team rebounded from this loss in a fury as they rolled over McGavock 2-0 and continued winning by thrashing University School 5-0, a game of high-powered defense. The team was certainly exhausted, however, after these emotional wins as they lost in a 0-1 decision to end the season.

Coach Lanier has led his

team to a record of 4 wins, 3 losses, and 4 ties. More importantly than their record is the fact that the team has shown the best team play toward the end of the season as they head into the district tournament.

In an important district game, MBA played with motivation against Hillwood. The game ended in a tie 0-0. The team's offense shined in impressive wins over Hume-Fogg (3-0) and Memphis Carver (5-0). Against a skillful team from Memphis Bartlett, MBA found itself in a defensive struggle and tied Bartlett 0-0. After Memphis Bartlett, a stronger Memphis Craigmont awaited MBA. The third straight team Memphis proved to be the magic number and exploited MBA's defense as they beat the Big Red 1-0.

Facing a surprising team from USN that had defeated district power Overton, MBA did not take this team lightly and defeated them 3-1. Against Overton, MBA took the early lead but were unable to take control of the game. The team dominated this crucial district game, but was unable to convert many opportunities for goals in a 1-1 tie. Against a physical team

from Hillsboro, the team played well but was unable to overcome Hillsboro's strong defense in a 1-2 loss. Against Father Ryan, MBA played with great emotion with the support of a large crowd. The game was a brawl at times, and it ended with a goal by Father Ryan in the second half to seal the victory. Ryan won 1-0.

After this setback, the team's anger and frustration was directed towards an unknowing McGavock team in a merciless 4-1 MBA victory. Against Brentwood High School, the team hoped to head into the district tournament on an emotional high. In this hard fought game, both teams played well with both teams dominating sporadically; however, Brentwood came back to tie the game 2-2.

Going into the Tournament, MBA had high hope of capturing the Championship. All went well in the first two rounds of the tournament with the Team winning against Hunterslane (7-nil) and against McGavock (3-1). But The Big Red fell to Ryan once again in grueling 5 goals to 1 goal match. But with shining rising under-classmen to replace senior losses, next year ought to prove more successful.



Mark LaVigne boots the bloody ball.

Montgomery Bell Academy
4001 Harding Road
Nashville, TN 37205